

You are correct that our staffs have worked closely to ensure that those issues were resolved to our mutual satisfaction and I greatly appreciate your cooperation in this effort. I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the Congressional Record during House consideration of the conference report.

Again, thank you for your cooperation.

Yours truly,

MICHAEL G. OXLEY,  
*Chairman.*

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. JOHN MUTKA

#### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 25, 2003*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate one of the most dedicated and hardworking citizens of the First Congressional District of Indiana, Mr. John Mutka. John has spent the past 40 years of his life working as a sports writer and columnist for the Post Tribune newspaper in Northwest Indiana. He will retire on Monday, November 24, 2003. His career in journalism has allowed him the opportunity to reach out to numerous people, and therefore has made a positive impact within his community.

John is an institution in Northwest Indiana, a household name to the thousands of residents who have read his work for the past 40 years. He is also known statewide and nationally for his excellence in sports journalism. This year, John was named Sportswriter of the Year by the National Sportswriters and Sportscasters Association. Also this year, he was honored by being inducted into the Indiana Sportswriters and Sportscasters Hall of Fame, and subsequently earned a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Lake County Sportsman-ship banquet.

John has given his time and efforts generously throughout his career. Along with his many accomplishments, John has also been recognized by the Indiana High School Athletic Association, the Indiana Football Coaches Association, and the Indiana Basketball Coaches Association for his dedication and hard work.

Mr. Speaker, John exemplifies the values of all great Hoosiers through his dedication, his work ethic, his loyalty and humility. His continued commitment and devotion to all of Northwest Indiana is worthy of the highest commendation. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating him on his well-deserved retirement, and continued success in all his future endeavors.

#### EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO THE HSBC FAMILY

#### HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 25, 2003*

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest condolences and sympathy to the victims of the tragic terrorist attacks in Istanbul, Turkey yesterday. Following the attacks last weekend on two synagogues in Istanbul, yesterday's attacks are further evi-

dence of the war on terrorism our country and our allies are facing. I am pleased the House passed H. Res. 453 today expressing condolences to the families of the individuals murdered and to those injured in the terrorist attacks. We must continue to stand in solidarity with Turkey in the fight against terrorism.

In addition, on behalf of my New York Delegation and all my colleagues, I would like to express my profound regret to the more than 40 employees at HSBC who were injured. As of today, many of those employees are still in critical condition, while it has cost others their own lives.

Often referred to as the "World's Local Bank", HSBC employs people in over 80 countries, including 50,000 in the United States, with over 400 offices in my home state of New York and in Staten Island. While the headquarters was attacked as a symbol of global commerce, I take my hat off to the HSBC employees in Turkey for re-opening their office today and for their leadership in committing to stay in Turkey and not backing down in the face of terrorism. Again, I extend my deepest sympathies to the entire HSBC family on the tragic loss of their colleagues.

#### PEARL COLEMAN KIDD

#### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 25, 2003*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity to tell my colleagues about a proud American and a beloved Dallas resident: Pearl Coleman Kidd. Mrs. Kidd was well known to generations of Dallas Metroplex residents who grew up coming to know and respect her for her remarkable contributions to our community.

Pearl Coleman Kidd was born in 1922 in Pulaski, Tennessee. After marrying Foster Kidd, the couple moved to Dallas in 1953. Two of our nation's core values, family and community, were also central commitments for Pearl Coleman Kidd. She loved Foster Kidd, her husband of 50 years. They rejoiced in their daughters Cheryl Kidd and Dr. Jocelyn Kidd of Dallas. Mrs. Kidd was also an active community volunteer. She was a devoted member of the New Hope Baptist Church.

It was through her endeavors in our community that Mrs. Kidd was able to volunteer in many Dallas Metroplex organizations. She received numerous awards for her contributions.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Kidd was an American treasure. Throughout her long life she gave tirelessly of herself for the advancement of her race and of all persons in need. Mrs. Kidd passed on October 16, 2003. Though our community is diminished by her loss, I ask that my colleagues join me, her family, and friends, in celebrating the remarkable life of this woman who truly symbolized our community and America at its best.

#### IN MEMORY OF NARAYAN D. KESHAVAN

#### HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 25, 2003*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of Narayan Keshavan who passed away suddenly and unexpectedly last week.

Keshavan worked for me from January of 1998 until June of 2001. During much of that time I was the Co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans and Keshavan helped me stay abreast of the issues facing India and Indian-Americans and stay in contact with the vibrant community here.

Keshavan had a love for two countries. His adopted home, the United States and his ancestral home, India. So few people modestly and selflessly served to help U.S.-India relations through such dramatic periods of growth and change. Keshavan was an early and vocal advocate for a different kind of relationship between the oldest and largest democracies in the world. He saw the possibility—in fact the necessity—of India and the United States working closely together well before it was evident to leaders in either country. In a clear example of bringing the two cultures closer together, Kesh was one of the Indian-Americans who made the October 23, 2003 First Deepavali Event at the White House happen.

Born May 31, 1950 in Hyderabad, India, Keshavan was a graduate of Andhra University (Visakhapatnam, India) where he received a BA in Pharmacy and Osmania University (Hyderabad, India) with a BA and MA in journalism. Over his impressive career as a journalist, Kesh was respected for his vision and commitment to politics and Indo-U.S. Relations.

In addition to working for the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans, he was the Founder and Executive Director of the Indian-American Republican Council, and President of the Indian-American Forum for Political Education (NYC and LI chapter). He also was a founder of the Indo-U.S. Parliamentary Forum. He served as a mentor to countless individuals of all ages and faiths, deeply touching the lives of many here and in India, even those he knew only a short time. People loved Kesh for his honesty, intelligence, and humor.

Kesh, passed away on Thursday, November 13 after he appeared on CNN in a interview with Lou Dobbs where he defended India in the growing political issue of outsourcing. Keshavan is survived by his father and sister.

I ask all my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a journalist, public servant, and tireless community activist, Narayan Keshavan.

#### THE IMPACT OF LEFT-WING SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS ON THE JUDICIAL NOMINATION PROCESS

#### HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 25, 2003*

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, over the last three days I have commented on Democratic